IMPROVING WATER QUALITY

Water quality is an important factor affecting any fishery. Within the Russian River watershed, efforts are under way to protect and improve water quality as a means of increasing the population of native salmonids. The following projects are designed to both monitor and measure water quality within the watershed, while moving ahead with efforts to reduce or eliminate activities that have the potential to impair the river or its tributaries.

CAMP MEEKER WASTEWATER RECLAMATION

Estimated Project Cost:
$5 Million

PROJECT GOAL

Eliminate a current public health hazard in the community of Camp Meeker and decrease water quality violations of the Occidental County Sanitation District.

DESCRIPTION:
- Camp Meeker is located in western Sonoma County
- Comprised of approximately 360 parcels with no sewer collection system or wastewater treatment system
- Failing septic systems resulted a declaration of a health hazard in 1989
- Nearby community of Occidental has sewer collection system and wastewater treatment plant operated by the Occidental County Sanitation District (OCSD)
- Occidental system in violation of current permitting requirements and water quality violations; given a time schedule to come into compliance
- Project would include: construction of sewer collection system in Camp Meeker; replacement of failing sewer collection system in Occidental; upgrading of OCSD treatment facility to process inflows from Camp Meeker and Occidental; construction of artifical wetland; and development of recycled water distribution facilities
- Environmental Impact Report has been completed for this project
- Pending funding, project could begin in 2003 and be completed by 2005

POTENTIAL PARTNERSHIPS:
- California Regional Water Quality Control Board, North Coast Region
- Camp Meeker Park and Recreation District
- County of Sonoma Department of Health Services
- Occidental County Sanitation District

CAMP MEEKER WASTEWATER RECLAMATION

Houses in the Camp Meeker community are served by individual septic systems that typically were constructed prior to the enactment of modern septic systems, and are unsuitable for the area